

are detected in women's breast milk. During her time on the Alameda County Board of Supervisors, she brokered a crucial deal to stop the San Leandro Hospital from closing, effectively saving jobs, keeping an emergency department running, and strengthening our community's healthcare infrastructure.

Supervisor Chan was a great leader for the East Bay and the entire state, a consummate public servant, and a true friend. She embodied service, uplifted the vulnerable, and used her platform for the betterment of all. She said, "My goal is really to make sure that children and families have everything that they need to be successful and to have a good quality of life." That is the precise sentiment by which she served and lived.

In her memory, let us continue the fight to remove systemic barriers and hurdles so that all members of our community can thrive and flourish. Supervisor Chan's legacy should continue to inspire us to keep up the work for justice and equality to which she dedicated her life.

As California Members of Congress, we thank Wilma for her service and honor her as an ardent champion for healthcare, education, children, seniors, and justice in our community. May Wilma's soul rest in peace and in power, and may her great legacy be a reminder of the work for justice and equality that remains. May we always honor Supervisor Chan, by taking the baton and rising to the occasion, as she so lovingly did, in service to her fellow human beings.

On behalf of the 13th Congressional District of California, I honor Supervisor Wilma Chan for her service and dedication.

#### HONORING DAVE KILCULLEN

#### HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 8, 2021*

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a former soldier and diplomat, and now author and scholar, Mr. David Kilcullen.

For both his homeland, Australia, and for the United States, Mr. Kilcullen has enjoyed a long career in national security and counter-insurgency. After commissioning as a lieutenant with the Australian Army, he would go on to serve in a number of operational, strategic, command, and staff positions both in the Royal Australian Infantry Corps and Australian Defence Force. In 2005, after leaving active duty, he began working with our State Department in the Office of the Coordinator for Counterterrorism.

Working in the field led Mr. Kilcullen to Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iraq, the Horn of Africa and Southeast Asia, and he would ultimately assist with the drafting of Army's Field Manual on counter-insurgency. He advised senior officials, from General David Petraeus to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice to NATO headquarters, on addressing the threat posed by insurgencies and guerilla warfare. He's both a brilliant thought-leader as well as a man of action who supports aid agencies, non-government organizations, and local communities in conflict and disaster-affected regions around the world.

Simply put, Madam Speaker, Mr. Kilcullen's expertise is second to none, and when I need-

ed a trusted partner for a mission as complex as the evacuation of Afghan allies from Kabul, he was exactly the right person at the right time to pull it off. He personifies the Aussie notion of "mateship," that unbreakable bond of friendship, loyalty, and shared purpose.

Without Dave's help, I'm not sure we would have been able to wrangle the caravan of buses and make sure they made it safely through the wire. When we were in the thick of it, we relied on his expertise and his determination, and only because of both were we able to prevent our Afghan allies—and the lives of so many others—from being lost.

Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Mr. Dave Kilcullen for his willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty in our effort to evacuate Afghan allies from Kabul and support them in their new life. For his unique ability to think outside the box to obtain safe passage for vulnerable Afghans and for his calm demeanor and resourcefulness in the midst of chaos and uncertainty, I submit these words—may they stand as a tribute to his dedicated service when the moment called for it most.

#### HONORING AMERICAN HEROES

#### HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 8, 2021*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, 2021 will tragically be remembered for the murders at Kabul International Airport of American Heroes:

Marine Corps Lance Cpl. David Espinoza, 20, of Rio Bravo, Texas;

Marine Corps Sgt. Nicole Gee, 23, of Sacramento, California;

Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Darin Hoover, 31, of Salt Lake City, Utah;

Army Staff Sgt. Ryan Knauss, 23, of Corryton, Tennessee;

Marine Corps Cpl. Hunter Lopez, 22, of Indio, California;

Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Rylee McCollum, 20, Jackson, Wyoming;

Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Dylan Merola, 20, of Rancho Cucamonga, California;

Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Kareem Nikoui, 20, of Norco, California;

Marine Corps Cpl. Daegan Page, 23, of Omaha, Nebraska;

Marine Corps Sgt. Johanny Rosario Pichardo, 25, Lawrence, Massachusetts;

Marine Corps Cpl. Humberto Sanchez, 22, Logansport, Indiana;

Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Jared Schmitz, 20, of St. Charles, Missouri; and

Navy Hospitalman Maxton Soviak, 22, of Berlin Heights, Ohio.

As a military parent of four sons who have served overseas, I cannot imagine what their grief-stricken families are going through during this Christmas season.

The decision of the President and the Vice-President in April to abandon the people of Afghanistan and appease the Taliban/AI-Qaeda terrorists led to the deaths of these American Heroes.

Sadly, this most catastrophic course of action will clearly shift terrorist suicide bombers from the Afghanistan safe haven to American neighborhoods.

The Global War on Terrorism continues with murderous attacks in New Zealand, Norway,

the United Kingdom, Uganda, Israel, and at Afghan Mosques.

The Democrat elite think they are smarter than everyone, and think Democrat voters and Democrat media are ignorant to believe that "the United States ended 20 years of war." They will gruesomely discover that now the targets are here at home.

In conclusion, God Bless our troops, who successfully protected America for 20 years, as the Global War on Terrorism continues moving from the Afghanistan safe haven to America.

#### HONORING JESSICA GARRELS

#### HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 8, 2021*

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an essential member of our team who helped us identify—and eventually evacuate—vulnerable Afghans after the fall of Kabul, Ms. Jessica Garrels of Michigan State University.

For nearly a decade, Ms. Garrels has worked in project management, including direct oversight and implementation of humanitarian assistance programs. Through her work, she's helped vulnerable communities around the world—growing their institutional and human capacity, building resilience, and expanding school nutrition and education initiatives. Community organizing is ingrained in Ms. Garrels' DNA—she's also served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Niger, a director with the Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters, and senior manager with Catholic Relief Services in places like Burkina Faso, Mali, and Laos.

It's this knack for finding solutions that led her to play such a key role in our mission to evacuate Afghans affiliated with Michigan State University when Kabul fell to the Taliban. In early August, she was part of the team that submitted initial visa applications for staff and scholars associated with the university's Grain Research and Innovation (GRAIN) program. However, when the evacuation window shrunk from a few months to a matter of days, she sprang into action. With desperate pleas for help flooding her inbox, she turned them into an outreach campaign to contact Members of Congress and anyone else who could help.

Thankfully, Ms. Garrels was able to join our ragtag effort—whereupon she immediately set out to gather critical information from GRAIN scientists and their immediate families. When our group of evacuees made it onto a caravan of buses and began their perilous journey to safety, Ms. Garrels worked around the clock to handle bureaucratic obstacles as they came up. I have no doubt that thanks to her quick and efficient response, lives were saved that would have otherwise been lost.

Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Ms. Jessica Garrels for her willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty in our effort to evacuate Afghan allies from Kabul and support them in their new life. For her skill in handling logistical challenges as they came up and for fast-tracking the requests for funding that allowed vulnerable MSU-affiliated Afghans to make it on the flight, I submit these words—